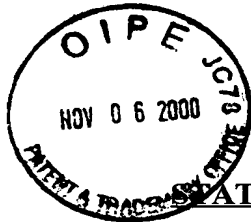


Re: In re Application of: **BRUCE G. KANIA ET AL**
U.S. Application Serial No.: **09/121,300**
Filing Date: **JULY 23, 1998**
For: **GEL AND CUSHIONING DEVICE**
Group Art Unit: **3738**
Examiner: **WILLSE**



STATEMENT OF RELEVANCY

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Attached hereto is a prosthetic sheath provided by Silipos. Also attached is an Invoice from 1993. Silipos alleges that the 1993 invoice describes an item "1215 SILOSHEATH," and that this item no. 1215 corresponds to the attached item no. 12155. Silipos has explained that the right hand most numeral "5" was added to the item no. designation in 1995.

Applicant is currently investigating the actual date of the alleged prior art. Importantly, Applicants have noted the indication on the product package, opposite side to the designation of item no. "12155" which indicates "SADMERC code effective 1/1/97" (emphasis provided).

Applicant is thus uncertain as to the status of the enclosed prosthetic sheath. In addition, however, Applicants pending claims provide for features which are neither anticipated by nor obvious over the enclosed prosthetic sheath.



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